

AUTONOMIC PARITY EXCHANGE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Error tolerance is increased for a storage system having a plurality of arrays by making local redundancy in a selected array globally available throughout the storage system. To achieve the increased error tolerance, a donor array is selected from the plurality of arrays when the difference between a minimum distance of the donor array and a minimum distance of a recipient array is greater or equal to 2. A donor storage unit is selected in the donor array and recipient information is then rebuilt from the recipient array on the selected storage unit. The selected storage unit is indicated to the donor array as having been donated before the lost information is rebuilt on the selected storage unit. Preferably, the minimum Hamming distance of the recipient array is $d \geq 2$ before the donor array is selected from the plurality of arrays.